



State of Illinois

## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Mary A. Gade, Director  
217/782-6761

2200 Churchill Road, Springfield, IL 62794-9276

June 3, 1997

Grant Paul  
4017 Mengstrasse  
Edwardsville, Illinois 62025

Re: <sup>121</sup>21205070002 -- Marion County  
Sandoval/Sandoval Zinc  
*S. R. Tied*

Dear Mr. Paul:

Thank you for your interest in the above referenced site. Information for the site was gathered from newspaper articles, community interviews, title searches, and other sources. Enclosed are site maps indicating inorganic concentrations at the site from the April 1993 Draft Feasibility Study Report.

1897 Sam & Julia Ewing sold the property to the Swansea Vale and Zinc Company.

The erection of the Swansea Vale Zinc Co. Smelter. It was supervised by Thomas Jones. The building began in April.

March 26 Jones was shipping an engine and boiler from Cincinnati.

June 4 Jones Family - Thomas, wife, son, and daughter moved to Sandoval.

June 11 B & O railroad sidetrack to smelter completed.

Nov. 19 Archibald Jones & Smelter went to Dubuque for ore.

1898

Jan 29 Fire ignited to begin work at the zinc smelter - dozen employees.

1899

May 19 The smelter enlarged four times with thirty men working at the smelter. After litigation the company was operated by Chicago men (M. Wheill).

SCREENED  
M M

August 17 Struck an immense stream in a well at 51 feet while digging.

1914

Sept. 24 Fire destroyed the smelter.

1915

The company began operating as a secondary zinc smelter. Before this time it was a primary zinc smelter.

1917

July 10 Zinc smelter workers went on strike for higher wages.

1936

Leonard Wheill, sole owner of M. Wheill & Company, sold the property to Sandoval Zinc Company.

1957

Use of the Retort Furnace was finally discontinued. A 'Kittle' was now used to melt down the big chunks.

1972

There was a burnout in which a fire again destroyed the smelter. The plant was then rebuilt.

Early 1970's

The company had used what they had called "Sal" skimmings. They would let the "Sal" skimmings weather, sometimes turning it over. This would help take the chlorine out of it. After it had weathered, they would mix it with good skimmings and put it in the furnace. The "product" was sent to paint manufacturers, also used as fertilizer, in medicines, and all kind's of things.

1972-1985 Zinc oxide was produced.

1982

Albert Haas operated the company. He then relinquished control to relatives. His relatives tried to cut corners. Made a poor product. Most of what was sent out, was sent back, only to be shipped elsewhere.

The Illinois State Geological Survey and the Illinois State Water Survey complete their site investigation of the Sandoval Zinc Smelter and two other smelters in a document titled, "Retention of Zinc, Cadmium, Copper, and Lead by Geologic Materials."

1985

Sandoval Zinc Company closed its doors.

Sept 1986

The Illinois EPA started contracted for a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study to start at the site.

1988

Sandoval Zinc Company sold the property to Albert Haas.

1989 Albert Haas sold the property for one dollar to White Bros. Salvage & Recycling Co.

April 24, 1991

A Seal Order was placed on the abandoned facility by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency.

Compounds fed into the kilns were pure zinc, zinc oxide, zinc chloride, possibly aluminum chloride, and other trace metals. The site contains elevated levels of cadmium, copper, lead, nickel, and zinc.

The site is in the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Information System (CERCLIS). The Preliminary Assessment was completed on December 19, 1986 with a higher priority rating. The Site Investigation phase of CERCLIS was completed March 31, 1988. The site has been discussed for proposal to the National Priorities List.

April 1993 Draft Feasibility Study completed for the site. The site is covered with metal rich cinder fill 1-10 feet thick, and upwards to 28 feet thick. The metal rich cinders covering the site is considered to be characteristically hazardous. Lead was found to be greater than 10,000 mg/Kg. Elevated levels of copper, nickel, and zinc are also found at the site.

Sept 1995 A second CERCLIS Screening Site Inspection was completed with a high priority rating.

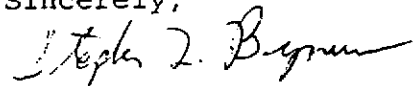
May 1996 The Illinois EPA sends out an enforcement Notice to approximately 20 Potentially Responsible Parties for cleanup to be performed on inside of buildings. Cleanup is to be first of several phases of cleanup needed at the site.

1996 A CERCLIS Expanded Site Inspection phase was performed on the community and surrounding area of the smelter.

April 1997 Second enforcement Notice is sent out to approximately an additional fifty PRP's. Work from last years Notice to be performed, plus additional work.

I hope that this information can be of assistance. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at 217/524-8901.

Sincerely,



Stephen L. Bynum  
Remedial Project Management Section  
Bureau of Land

M